

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10. By the present amendment, claims 1, 3 and 8 have been amended. Therefore claims 1-10 remain pending in the application.

Statutory Double Patenting

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1-10 of the present application under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-10 of co-pending Application No. 10/644,008. The rejection is respectfully traversed as the Applicants have now amended all of the present independent claims, such that the same invention is no longer claimed by both applications.

Further, the Applicants submit that a nonstatutory obviousness type double patenting rejection of the present claims, in light of the co-pending Application No. 10/644,008, is not appropriate because of the attached terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) concerning Application No. 10/644,008

Nonstatutory Double Patenting

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 8 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 5 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,315,200. The rejection is respectfully traversed in light of the attached terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) concerning U.S. Pat. No. 6,315,200.

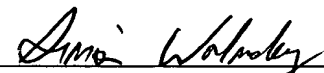
Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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